Eileen Beal
3745 Woodridge Road
Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44121-1860

April 30, 2000

Ms. Jane Henny
FDA Dockets Management Branch
5630 Fishers Lane
Room 1061 (HFA-305)
Rockville, MD 20852

Re: docket no. 00P-1211-CP1 and docket no. 99N-4282

Dear Ms. Henny,

This letter is written in support of the creation of stringent screening and testing procedures for genetically modified and/or engineered foods.

It is my understanding that the FDA currently makes no distinction in its testing and vetting process between genetically engineered foods and foods that are bred, grown and/or produced using traditional (that means time-tested, safety-tested) methods.

There is no pre-market testing of genetically engineered products (for either human or non-human consumers). The government takes the work of those who produce these products that there is no significant different in the quality, bioavailability, and safety. This, Ms. Henny, surely must encourage sloppy reporting and record keeping.

The government must take a stand: That stand must be to demand that all foods that are "changed" via genetic manipulation also be scientifically tested to insure that (1) they are safe to ingest now, (2) that ingesting them now will not adversely affect those who consume them (or their off-spring) in the future, and (3) that these genetically modified foods also do not cause antibiotic resistance to standard therapies and medications (for both humans and non-humans) in the future, both here in the United States and in other nations.

I look forward to hearing from your office on this issue.

Sincerely,

Eileen Beal

Eileen Beal

CC: my records

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00P-1211

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44121-1860

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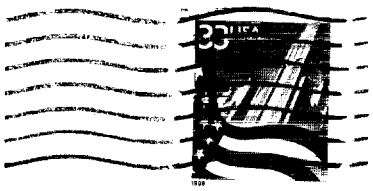

Commissioner Jane Henney
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